these fields. There will be no sharing of Profit Petroleum with the State Government of Rajasthan from pre-New Exploration Licensing Policy/Joint Venture blocks.

Oil from Barmer-Sanchore basin

†3615. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the commerical production of oil from Barmer-Sanchore basin is likely to begin;

(b) whether and by when the oil and natural gas produced from this area will yield profits to Government;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide State share therefrom; and

(d) if so, upto what percentage, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The commerical production from Barmer-Sanchore basin is likely to commence in 2008-09.

(b) Government will get its share of Profit petroleum in terms of the provisions of the concerned Production Sharing Contract. The Profit Petroleum would depend on the development cost and value of the production, which will accrue from these fields. There will be no sharing of Proft Petroleum with the State Government concerned from pre-NELP/JV blocks.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has accepted the recommendations of Twelfth Finance Commission to share Profit Petroleum (PP) and Production Level Payment (PLP) arising out of contracts under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) policy with the concerned States in the ratio of 50:50. However, this profit sharing will not be applicable for RJ-ON-90/1 which is pre-NELP and Joint Ventures Block.

Production of Bio-diesel

3616. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government are planning to produce cheap Bio-diesel; and

(b) whether Government are holding discussions with any US company to aid the progress of this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is the nodal Ministry for the proposed National Mission on Bio-diesel, being set up with a focus on large-scale cultivation of Jatropha. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the National Mission on Bio-diesel has been submitted by that Minsitry to the Planning Commission. This proposal *inter alia*, envisages a Demonstration Project involving plantation of Jatropha in 4 lakh hectares of degraded forest and non-forest lands for manufacturing Bio-diesel. The Planning Commission has given 'in principle' approval to the DPR for the demonstration phase, estimated to cost Rs. 1286 crores over a period of 5 years. The Ministry of Rural Development has released Rs. 49 Crores to the nine States, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan for raising Jatropha seedlings in nurseries.

(b) Ministry of Rural Development have reported that they have not held any discussion with US company.

Oil Exploration in Dholka Oilfiled

3617. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC after conducting tests gave up efforts and declared no crude was available in the Dholka Oilfield near Ingoli village in Ahmedabad district;

(b) if so, how it was that the State-owned Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation successfully recovered crude from the second well in Dholka oilfield;

(c) the amount spent by ONGC to conduct tests for crude oil exploration and

(d) the amount spent by Gujarat Oil Corporation to successfully strike crude oil?